

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN): (a) and (b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Exploitation of Hindustan Samachar Workers

621. SHRI BHOLA PRASAD: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a report published in Hindi 'Janyug' Daily of New Delhi dated the 10th April, 1981 under caption "Exploitation of Hindustan Samachar Workers";

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have examined the issues raised therein; and

(d) what steps have been taken to redress their grievances?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) to (d) The report referred to, has come to Government's notice. Hindustan Samachar is a news agency in the cooperative sector. Government have no control over their management/finances. There is, therefore, no question of Government examining the issues raised in the report nor any steps to be taken in the matter.

Rampant corruption in coal delivery orders

622. SHRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether he had received a letter dated the 21st February, 1980 with photostat copies from an employee working in the coal industry intimating him of the rampant corruption in coal delivery orders and blank road permit forms signed by

Shri S. P. Kaushik, ex-Regional Sales Manager, Billaspur (not posted in the BCL);

(b) if so, what are the facts thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to get the allegation investigated; and

(d) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Broadcast of Bengali programme over AIR

623. SHRI AMARPROSAD CHAKRABORTY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Bengali Programme broadcast over All India Radio at 4.30 P.M. daily has been stopped for the last few years;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government propose to resume the broadcast of that programme over the All India Radio?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) Yes, Sir. The programme was discontinued with effect from 7-12-1975.

(b) The programme was started in 1971 to counter anti-India propaganda in Pakistan and to enable Bengalis stranded in Pakistan to get authentic news about former East Pakistan from Indian sources. With the creation of Bangladesh and the repatriation of Bengalis to Bangladesh, the need of the service no longer existed and, therefore, it was discontinued.

(c) No, Sir.